

NOV 15 2004

PATENT APP. SER. NO. 09/879,704  
ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1711514

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yasufumi FUKUMA et al.

Serial No.: 09/879,704

Filing Date: June 12, 2001

For: DATABASE CONSTRUCTING SYSTEM

Examiner: DESIRE, Gregory M.

Group Art Unit: 2625

FILED VIA FACSIMILE TO FAX No. 703-872-9306

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

This is in timely response to the Office Action mailed August 13, 2004, wherein the Examiner:

1. Required restriction to one of the following Groups of claims: I (22-26), II (1-12 and 27), and III (13-19 and 20-21) as identified by the examiner, and required affirmation of the provisional election with traverse to prosecute Group II made by telephone on July 1, 2004.
2. Rejected Claims 1-6, 12, and 27 under Section 102(e) as being anticipated by Gao et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,508,553 (hereinafter, "Gao et al").
3. Rejected Claims 7-9 as unpatentable under Section 103(a), as obvious over Gao et al in view of Saigo, U.S. Patent No. 6,142,628 (hereinafter, "Saigo").
4. Indicated that Claims 10 and 11 would be allowable if they are rewritten to be independent of a rejected base claim.

1776213.01.05  
1711514

In response, Applicants respectfully submit the following Amendments and Remarks.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 4 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.